

Indiana Dunes State Park

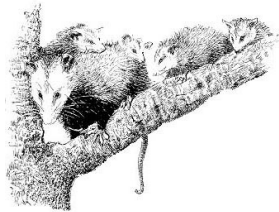
1600 N. 25 E.

Chesterton, Indiana 46304

NC # (219) 926-1390

Park Manager: Brandt Baughman

Asst. Park Manager: Doug Stukey



Opossums



Nature Center Staff:

Brad Bumgardner

David Garner

February Nature Center Hours: 9:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CDT

Tuesdays-Sunday, Closed Mondays

www.interpretiveservices.in.gov

All programs are free (unless otherwise noted) and open to the public after paying the park entrance fee. Our interpretive programs are designed to entertain and enrich folks of all ages. Children under 12, please bring a parent with you. To be added to our email list, send an email to dunesnc@dnr.in.gov

Wednesday February 3

6pm Friends of Indiana Dunes Annual Dinner. On this night, the Friends of Indiana Dunes hosts their quarterly board meeting and annual dinner. The pizza party is open to all Friends and interested members at Jelsosomo's Pizza in Chesterton. Come find out about this supporting group.

Saturday February 6

10am Winter Beach Walk! Meet the park interpreter at the beach pavilion for a short stroll along Lake Michigan's arctic shoreline. We'll explore dune formation, ice shelf building, and keep an eye out for animal tracks and other winter secrets. Dress for the cold and wind! BB

2pm 100 Years of Indiana State Parks. Join us in the Nature Center auditorium for this new 50-minute documentary that captures 100 years of the Indiana State Parks. It was produced in 2009 by PBS and shows great scenes from your favorite parks. Join us!

5pm Saturday Night Ski-in! Break out your skis, snowshoes, or warm hiking boots and join us for an evening adventure in the dune woodlands. We'll meet at the Nature Center to enjoy a warm fire, before beginning our hour trek into the winter wonders of the dunes! In lieu of no snow, we'll still hike it. Limited ski rental available. Call ahead to reserve your skis. BB

Sunday February 7

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. DG

2pm A Super Bowl Hike. Bring your favorite team's colors and join the Naturalist for a refreshing afternoon jaunt into the super interdunal "bowls" of the high dunes. We'll visit great views from Mt. Tom along the way. Put on that jersey and join us outside the Nature Center. BB

Saturday February 13

10am Sands of the World. Join volunteer Dale for a fascinating look at how the dunes were formed. We'll explore the sands of the dunes, as well as other sands from around the world! Meet in the auditorium for this 30 minute, interactive program.

2pm Behind the Scenes of the Dunes NC. Ever wonder what's behind that door? Join the naturalist in the Nature Center Auditorium for a fun look at unveiling the mystique behind the Nature Center. We'll look at hidden displays and give a behind the scenes tour afterwards. DG

Sunday February 14

Happy Valentine's Day

10am A Valentine's Day Stroll. Join the Interpreter this morning for a look at all things love! We'll look at the "birds and the bees" of the natural world and other sights along the way. Bring your lover and join us! DG

2pm Techno Scavenger Hunt! Join a naturalist and his GPS unit to discover nature and some hidden treasures in this high tech scavenger hunt. Meet at the Nature Center. We'll be for 45 minutes. DG

Saturday February 20

10am Toilet Tube Chia Pets! That's right; we'll be turning our old toilet paper rolls into chia pets you can grow at home. Come to the Nature Center Auditorium for this very unique craft time! DLG

2pm Geotagging Trek: Sharing More Than Just Photos. Learn new ways to share your dunes adventures with the park Interpreter. Meet at the Beach Pavilion to explore the technology of geotagging and how to share your virtual hikes with your friends online. DG

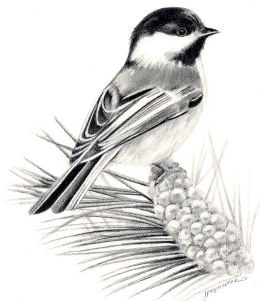
Sunday February 21

10am Feed the Birds. Join the Naturalist outside the Nature Center for the daily feeding of our birds. Get great close up views of chickadees, cardinals, and woodpeckers! Great fun for the kids. DG

2pm A Dunes History Tour. Explore the dunes through the ages with the use of modern technology. Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium for a peak at how the old photos and maps have captured the changing dunes. Join us! DG

Tuesday February 23

7pm Image Makers Nature Photo Club. Image Makers is an informal nature photo club that meets once a month at the Nature Center. Bring your favorite photo to share or just enjoy photos from other nature photo enthusiasts. Join us!



Saturday February 27

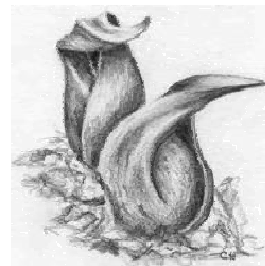
10am Spring Skunk Search! No, not real skunks, but the first wildflower of the year.... Skunk cabbage! We'll meet at the Nature Center and stroll into the dune wetlands for a peak at this stinky flower. Bring your olfactory senses and join us! DLG

2pm Dunes Creek Restoration Tour. You may notice the construction going on now at the main beach parking lot. Meet the interpreter at the Campground Gate for a 45-minute tour of some of the creek restoration, or "daylighting," that is occurring here this winter. DG

Sunday February 28

10am Water Bottle Greenhouses. Winter's not leaving yet, but we can still enjoy some sights of spring in our own home with this special recyclable greenhouse craft. Meet in the Nature Center Auditorium to make your own special craft to take home. DLG

2pm Leave it to Beaver. Join us at the Nature Center for an hour stroll to investigate the dune beaver family. We'll hike out to their "gigantic" lodge and check out some recent activity. Bring the family! DG



Reserve a special hike or program for your group!

Park Interpreters have been helping visitors get the most from their duneland adventures since 1931. Separate from public programming, the interpretive service of the park remains available today, revealing the secrets of the dunes to school, church, company, and scout groups year round with a variety of tailored programs and hikes. For a \$1.00 per person fee, reservations can be made from 6 months to two weeks in advance. The Indiana Dunes State Park Nature Center is now scheduling spring field trips! Call the Nature Center and schedule your group's adventure today! (219) 926-1390